AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-12. (Canceled)

13. **(Currently Amended)** A hermetically sealed electrically driven compressor comprising:

a compressor element elastically supported in an enclosed container;

a cup-shaped stopper fixed to an inner upper part of said enclosed container, said cup-shaped stopper having a single curved protrusion extending inwardly from ~~an~~ a continuous inner peripheral surface of said cup-shaped stopper;

a crankshaft associated with said compressor element, with an upper end portion of said crankshaft extending into said cup-shaped stopper, and being spaced from said inner peripheral surface of said cup-shaped stopper with no structure existing between said upper end portion and said inner peripheral surface, such that said upper end portion of said crankshaft is arranged to contact said curved protrusion and said inner peripheral surface upon oscillation of said compressor element; and

a motor element for driving said compressor element,

wherein said curved protrusion has a linear shape, extends along an axial direction of said crankshaft, ~~and~~ is formed along said inner peripheral surface of said cup-shaped stopper, and is rigid, such that it does not deform upon contact with said crankshaft.

14. **(Previously Presented)** The hermetically sealed electrically driven compressor according to claim 13, wherein

said curved protrusion has an apex and flanks on opposite sides of said apex, with said flanks each having a radius of curvature such that a center of the radius of curvature is positioned outside of said cup-shaped stopper.

15. **(Previously Presented)** The hermetically sealed electrically driven compressor according to claim 14, wherein

said flanks are generally symmetrical relative to one another about said apex.

16. **(Previously Presented)** The hermetically sealed electrically driven compressor according to claim 15, wherein

said cup-shaped stopper comprises a ring member, and

said curved protrusion is formed by deforming an outer peripheral portion of said ring member such that a resulting deformation of an inner peripheral portion of said ring member corresponds to said curved protrusion.

17. **(Cancelled)**

18. **(Previously Presented)** The hermetically sealed electrically driven compressor according to claim 15, wherein

said compressor element includes a compressor chamber and a piston for reciprocating within said compressor chamber in back and forth directions, and

said curved protrusion extends generally orthogonal to the back and forth directions.

19. **(Previously Presented)** The hermetically sealed electrically driven compressor according to claim 14, wherein

said cup-shaped stopper comprises a ring member, and

said curved protrusion is formed by deforming an outer peripheral portion of said ring member such that a resulting deformation of an inner peripheral portion of said ring member corresponds to said curved protrusion.

20. **(Cancelled)**

21. **(Previously Presented)** The hermetically sealed electrically driven compressor according to claim 14, wherein

said compressor element includes a compressor chamber and a piston for reciprocating within said compressor chamber in back and forth directions, and

said curved protrusion extends generally orthogonal to the back and forth directions.

22. **(Previously Presented)** The hermetically sealed electrically driven compressor according to claim 13, wherein

said curved protrusion has an apex and flanks on opposite sides of said apex, with said flanks being generally symmetrical relative to one another about said apex.

23. **(Previously Presented)** The hermetically sealed electrically driven compressor according to claim 22, wherein

said cup-shaped stopper comprises a ring member, and

said curved protrusion is formed by deforming an outer peripheral portion of said ring member such that a resulting deformation of an inner peripheral portion of said ring member corresponds to said curved protrusion.

24. **(Cancelled)**

25. **(Previously Presented)** The hermetically sealed electrically driven compressor according to claim 22, wherein

said compressor element includes a compressor chamber and a piston for reciprocating within said compressor chamber in back and forth directions, and

said curved protrusion extends generally orthogonal to the back and forth directions.

26. **(Previously Presented)** The hermetically sealed electrically driven compressor according to claim 13, wherein

said cup-shaped stopper comprises a ring member, and

said curved protrusion is formed by deforming an outer peripheral portion of said ring member such that a resulting deformation of an inner peripheral portion of said ring member corresponds to said curved protrusion.

27. **(Cancelled)**

28. **(Previously Presented)** The hermetically sealed electrically driven compressor according to claim 26, wherein

said compressor element includes a compressor chamber and a piston for reciprocating within said compressor chamber in back and forth directions, and

said curved protrusion extends generally orthogonal to the back and forth directions.

29. **(Cancelled)**

30. **(Currently Amended)** The hermetically sealed electrically driven compressor according to claim ~~29~~28, wherein

said compressor element includes a compressor chamber and a piston for reciprocating within said compressor chamber in back and forth directions, and

said curved protrusion extends generally orthogonal to the back and forth directions.

31. **(Previously Presented)** The hermetically sealed electrically driven compressor according to claim 13, wherein

said compressor element includes a compressor chamber and a piston for reciprocating within said compressor chamber in back and forth directions, and

said curved protrusion extends generally orthogonal to the back and forth directions.

32. **(Previously Presented)** The hermetically sealed electrically driven compressor according to claim 13, wherein

said inner peripheral surface of said cup-shaped stopper comprises an innermost peripheral surface of said cup-shaped stopper.

33 - 35. **(Cancelled)**